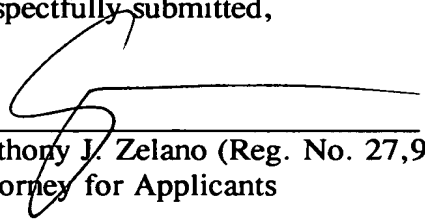


**REMARKS**

A principal purpose of this Preliminary Amendment is to remove the multiply dependent claims and avoid the fee associated therewith, applicant reserving the right to reintroduce claims to canceled combined subject matter.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version With Markings To Show Changes Made**".

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims

The claims have been amended as follows:

6. (Amended) The tetrakisfluoroalkylborate salts according to claim 4 or 5, characterized in that A represents a 5- or 6-membered aromatic residue optionally including nitrogen and/or sulfur and/or oxygen atoms, or a preferably 5- or 6-membered cycloalkyl residue, preferably a phenyl or pyridine residue.

8. (Amended) The tetrakisfluoroalkylborate salts according to ~~any of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, characterized in that each of the ligands R are the same, representing  $(C_xF_{2x+1})$ , with  $x = 1$  or  $2$ .

9. (Amended) The tetrakisfluoroalkylborate salts according to ~~any of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, characterized in that each of the ligands R are the same, representing a  $CF_3$  residue.

10. (Amended) A method of producing the tetrakisfluoroalkylborate salts of claim 9, characterized in that at least one compound of general formula (X)



~~wherein  $M^{n+}$  and n have the meanings as in claims 1 to 9,~~ is fluorinated by reacting with at least one fluorinating agent in at least one solvent, and the thus-obtained fluorinated compound having the general formula (I) is purified and isolated according to usual methods.

12. (Amended) The method according to claim 10 ~~or 12~~, characterized in that fluorine, chlorine fluoride, chlorine trifluoride, chlorine pentafluoride, bromine trifluoride, bromine pentafluoride, or a mixture of at least two of these fluorinating agents, preferably chlorine fluoride or chlorine trifluoride or a mixture of at least two

fluorinating agents containing chlorine fluoride and/or chlorine trifluoride is used as fluorinating agent.

13. (Amended) The method according to claim 10 ~~to 12~~, characterized in that hydrogen fluoride, iodine pentafluoride, dichloromethane, chloroform, or a mixture of at least two of these solvents, preferably hydrogen fluoride, is used as solvent.

14. (Amended) A mixture, including

- a) at least one tetrakisfluoroalkylborate salt of general formula (I) according to ~~claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, and
- b) at least one polymer.

16. (Amended) The mixture according to claim 14 ~~or 15~~, characterized in that component b) is a homopolymer or copolymer of unsaturated nitriles, preferably acrylonitrile, vinylidenes, preferably vinylidene difluoride, acrylates, preferably methyl acrylate, methacrylates, preferably methyl methacrylate, cyclic ethers, preferably tetrahydrofuran, alkylene oxides, preferably ethylene oxide, <sup>siloxane</sup> ~~siloxane~~, phosphazene, alkoxysilanes, or an organically modified ceramic, or a mixture of at least two of the above-mentioned homopolymers and/or copolymers and optionally at least one organically modified ceramic.

18. (Amended) The mixture according to ~~any of claims 14 to 17~~ claim 14, characterized in that the polymer is at least partially crosslinked.

19. (Amended) The mixture according to ~~any of claims 14 to 18~~ claim 14, characterized in that the mixture additionally includes at least one solvent.

21. (Amended) A method of producing a mixture according to ~~any of claims 14 to 20~~ claim 14, characterized in that at least one tetrakisfluoroalkylborate salt

of general formula (I) ~~according to any of claims 1 to 9~~ and at least one polymer and optionally at least one solvent are mixed.

23. (Amended) Use of at least one tetrakisfluoroalkylborate of general formula (I) according to ~~any of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1 or at least one mixture ~~according to any of claims 14 to 20 thereof with at least one polymer~~ in electrolytes, primary batteries, secondary batteries, capacitors, supercapacitors, or galvanic cells, optionally in combination with other conducting salts and/or additives.

24. (Amended) Electrolytes, including at least one tetrafluoroalkylborate of general formula (I) according to ~~any of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1 or at least one mixture ~~according to any of claims 14 to 20 thereof with at least one polymer~~.

26. (Amended) Primary batteries, including at least one tetrafluoroalkylborate of general formula (I) according to ~~any of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1 or at least one mixture ~~according to any of claims 14 to 20 thereof with at least one polymer~~.

27. (Amended) Secondary batteries, including at least one tetrakisfluoroalkylborate of general formula (I) according to ~~any of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1 at least one mixture ~~according to any of claims 14 to 20 thereof with at least one polymer~~.

28. (Amended) Capacitors, including at least one tetrakisfluoroalkylborate of general formula (I) according to ~~any of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1 or at least one mixture ~~according to any of claims 14 to 20 thereof with at least one polymer~~.

29. (Amended) Supercapacitors, including at least one tetrakisfluoroalkylborate of general formula (I) according to ~~any of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1

or at least one mixture ~~according to any of claims 14 to 20~~ thereof with at least one polymer.

30. Galvanic cells, including at least one tetrakisfluoroalkylborate of general formula (I) according to ~~any of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1 or at least one mixture ~~according to any of claims 14 to 20~~ thereof with at least one polymer.